

THE SILVER SIGNAL

www.lonestartreasure.com

December 2006

Lone Star Club Executive Officers

John Finnell
Floyd Caldwell
Susan Caldwell
Dave Totzke

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer

President's Corner

by John Finnell



Merry Christmas everyone! I can hardly believe this year is almost over. The time has really flown by hasn't it! I hope you have had as much fun with Lone Star Treasure Hunters as I have had being your President. A word of thanks to everyone who

participated in the Amigos hunt last month. We all had a great day visiting with friends we don't get to see all that often. Some of us even found a coin or two or won a prize in the drawing. Thanks to **Elizabeth Wesson** and **Larry Cooley** we have some photos from the Amigos hunt on the web site. There are also pictures from the garage sale, the Lone Star hunt in October, and the WWATS hunt courtesy of **Joe Hennig**.

Since it is Christmastime we will forgo our regular meeting this month, and have our Christmas party instead. The party will start at 7:00 p.m., at the Senter Park East facility. We will have our traditional Christmas barbeque catered by **Spring Creek**. Also, we will learn who the treasure hunter of the year will be along with the club members of the year. We will also recognize the officers and committee members who make this club one of the best in the state of Texas, if not the country. We will have a Chinese gift exchange as well. (We will say more on that later).

We held elections last month for Vice-president and Secretary. **Floyd** and **Susan Caldwell's** terms both expired this year. Our new Vice-president for 2007 will be **Mr. Robert Jordan**, and our Secretary for 2007 will be **Mr. Herman Denzler**. Please join me in welcoming them both to their posts and thanking both Floyd and Susan for jobs well done! Most of our committee members are returning once again, but allow me to list them here along with the newly elected members.

The Find of the Month Committee: **Gordon Robinson** and **Ronnie Murray** are stepping down after this year, and our new Find of the Month Committee will be **Elizabeth Wesson** and **Rodney Bates**. The Newsletter Editor: **Catherine Finnell**. The Hospitality Chairman: **Mary Penson**. The Membership Chairman: **Jack Lowry**. The Raffle Committee: **Ronnie Morris** and **Rick Anderson**. The Fun Hunt Chairman: **Roy Harston**. The Huntmaster: **Mike Koenig**. Last, but never least, the Refreshment Chairman: **Andy Mesaros**. In addition to these positions, I have appointed **Mike Skinner** as Program Chairman, and **Joe Hennig** as an At Large position. Thank you all for everything that you do for the club!

Oh I almost forgot! Fun hunts are back on! Roy has a cache ready, and he will be announcing the time and location of the hunt at the Christmas party. With the price of silver what it is, this cache should be worth about \$23 so plan on being there Saturday, December 2nd, time and location to be determined. Hope to see you all at the party!

The Cat Box


by Catherine Finnell



I hope everyone has enjoyed an outstanding year with our club. We have had many enjoyable events and meetings, quest speakers and raffles, and I hope that 2007 will be even better. The Amigos hunt went well, and I have included some highlight pictures later in this newsletter. There are many more on the website so please go and enjoy looking over the club's web page. I know that there has been quite a bit of news on whether or not one should say Merry Christmas, but I believe everyone should be able to enjoy the holiday without worrying over how you say it. After all, it is so much more than two day's off of work, how much money to spend at the mall, how many parties you're pressed to attend, and how much food to eat. Please take a moment to remember those without presents or food in their homes, the men and women in other countries fighting to make sure you can have a holiday free and safe. No matter whether it is Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Kwanzaa, or a simple Happy Holidays let's all remember the reasons for the season. The love of family and

The Cat box cont'd.

friends, warmth of heart and home, giving of oneself without expectation, the wholesome sound of children laughing, songs that help us remember what it felt like to believe in Santa Claus, lights twinkling on every street, and the opportunity to live life to the fullest. If those who worry over the name would just remember how to feel it instead of say it, then maybe everyone would have the feeling of this season all year long. One can always dream. Until next year, may good fortune and prosperity be yours, and have a very **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!**

Birthday Drawing		Mike Skinner
Name Tag Drawing:		Ray Walther
Marble Raffle:		John Finnell drew a white marble, and drew the \$5 envelope.

Door Prizes

Prize	Donated by	Winner
Garrett TX twister	Garrett	Mike Skinner
Garrett hat	Garrett	Susan Caldwell
Garrett hat	Garrett	Bill Abbott
Garrett hat	Garrett	Rusty Curry
Garrett hat	Garrett	Robert Gibson
Garrett visor & items	Garrett	Ken Buscouse
Knife	Ronnie Murray	Velma Slocum
Knife	Ronnie Murray	Elizabeth Wesson

Reflections of the 2006 Club Open Hunt.

By Mike Koenig

With the exception of a minor cloud burst during the second hunt; it was a beautiful day. Registration went well and we started the mini-main hunt on time with all hunters finding coins and tokens for the prizes to be given away later in the day. My favorite hunt of the day was the key hunt. The hunters quickly took to the field digging key after key, and running quickly to the locked treasure boxes to try their luck. **Dave Totzke** was the first hunter to open a box. The first or second key he found was one of the winning keys. **Ronnie Morris** found the key for the second chest, followed by **Terry Schick** who was successful in opening the last box. Ten other hunters were successful in finding the correctly marked keys to win silver rounds. I am always amazed at how quickly the hunts go.

I think the wildest hunt of the day was the fundraiser hunt. We buried, I think around 75, donated rolls of wheat pennies. In one of the rolls was a gold coin. **Dave** and **Kelene Totzke** went around and signed up 51 hunters for the event. The field size was maybe 30 foot wide and 75 feet long. Needless to say, there were a lot of hunters in a very small area. Everyone scrambled to find the rolls of coins, a task that became harder when a couple of contestants scattered their rolls as they plucked them from the ground.

However, in just a few moments the rolls were found, the gold recovered, and the hunters were left catching their breath. It was a very memorable event.

The afternoon rolled on with the silver dime hunt, the ladies hunt, and the cake auction. Thanks to everyone who purchased cakes.

Finally the main hunt arrived. The hunters quickly took the field finding silver of all sorts; dimes, rings, quarters, halves, rounds and even dollars. Many of the hunters were even lucky enough to find the tokens for the ten detectors we gave away along with other prizes. We concluded the day by exchanging tokens for prizes, and wishing everyone a safe trip home.

Reflections cont'd.

This day would not have been such a great success without the help of numerous club members and manufacturers.

A big thanks goes out to the 16 club members who buried coins.

A big thanks goes out to the club members who helped set up and run the hunt.

A big thanks goes out the club members who donated to, and helped set up and run, the garage sale we had in October.

A big thanks goes out to everyone who donated money or items to the club hunt.

A big thanks goes out to **Garrett Detectors** who over and above all other manufacturers are the best supporters of metal detecting clubs.

A big thanks to the other manufacturers that support our club events: **Wilcox All-Pro Tools, American Detector Sales, Jimmy Sierra Products, Two Men and a Truck, and Tesoro.**

Concessions provided by the **Ladies of Glen Heights** made it really easy for everyone to refresh themselves with a bite to eat, and the nice park facilities helped make for an enjoyable day. Thanks to the City of Glen Heights for allowing us to use their facilities.

Finally, if you did not attend, you missed out on a great time to be out with your club. Start making plans to attend next year. We are already planning next year's hunt. Mark your calendars for October 13th, 2007. I will see you there.

See you in the field, Michael

P.S. Here are some numbers you might be interested in:

39 club members hunted in at least one hunt. That is 56% of our current membership.

16 club members helped bury coins and run the hunt. That is 23% of the club.

While we invite others, this is an event for our club. I would like to see more of you there.

Find of the Month Winners-November 2006

COIN

Ivan Santos	1927 Standing liberty quarter
Elizabeth Wesson	1937 Mercury dime
Rusty Curry also 2 nd	1891 V-nickel
Andy Mesaros	1962 D Franklin half dollar

GOLD JEWELRY

Ronnie Murray	14k Gold band
Floyd Caldwell	14k Gold bracelet
Chuck Howell	14k Gold necklace

SILVER JEWELRY

Andy Mesaros	Shirley Temple silver ring
San Washburn	Silver wolf ring
Jesse Boedeker	Silver necklace

RELIC

Rusty Curry	Texas cuff button
Floyd Caldwell	Blue Bennington marble

TOKEN

Rusty Curry	Bull Durham fob
Elizabeth Wesson	Love token
John Finnell	1957 Dog tag

WILD CARD

Mike Koenig	WWII Pin
Floyd Caldwell	Lead soldier
Rusty Curry	Watch fob

November Raffle Winners

Raffle Prize	Winner
1867 Three cent piece	Susan Caldwell
1858 Flying eagle cent	Mike Koenig
1929 Gold proof copy	Joe Hennig
2005 American eagle	Roy Harston
2005 American eagle	Velma Slocum
1836 Bust half dollar	Ronnie Morris
1876 Seated quarters	Terry Schick
1853 Seated half dime	Art Sandstrum
1851 Large cent	Ray Walther
1849 Large cent	Sam Washburn
1842 Large cent	Terry Schick
2006 P&D mint sets	John Finnell
Cherub gold coin	David Bennett

Beginner's Tip By Wayne R. Suite

The best tip for a beginner is that it is not the cost or model of detector purchased which determines your success in the hobby, it is the swing of the coil over the metal object, which provides results. In other words the most expensive detector will not result in any find if it sits in the closet corner most of its life!!

COMMISSIONER'S COURT FINDINGS

Submitted By Keith Wills

Greetings AMDC!

We had quite a successful day in court yesterday. The Commissioners passed a "direction motion" to open up Travis County owned parks for detecting. A policy will be written, and we will be back in two weeks for the final vote. It will most likely involve a permit system, and there will be some stipulations regarding detecting in archeologically sensitive areas. Rather than try to restate the exact verbiage of what was proposed, the entire text from the court session is included in the link below.

www.co.travis.tx.us/commissioners_court/agendas/2006/11/text/vs061114_15.asp

Many, many THANKS to **Larry Vickers, Art Tiemann, Scott Hegel** and **Ray Knowles** for their countless hours of work to prepare for these court sessions. It just goes to show that if you care about something, and put your all into it; you CAN make a difference!

Another big THANKS to the club members who took off work or time from their busy schedules to come to the court appearances to show support for our cause, **Nancy Tiemann, Andy Waters, Jack, Tim and Tish, Everett Preslar, John Chapman, Randy Connell, Jim Lawhon, David Mendoza**, and totally awesome **Dave Totzke, Mike Koenig, and Ed Pavlasek** drove in from Dallas/Ft. Worth, and **Keith Wills** from the far corner of east Texas to be with us in court yesterday. Keith came prepared to discuss the Army Corps policy he spearheaded in '89, and also brought a large visual of a detector screen. (Dave is a former president of TCTC, and Mike is the '07 nominee for President. Keith is also a former TCTC president, and is now head of WWATS) Thanks guys!

We will keep everyone posted. Please remember that until this is voted on, the Travis County Parks are still **off-limits**.

Announcements and Reminders

The meeting time for this year's Christmas party is 7:00 p.m. on December 1st, at the Senter Park East facility. The Christmas party is for members in good standing and their guests only! There will be \$1000 in coins raffled at this year's Christmas party.

Annual club dues are now PAST DUE. Any non-paid members will go on the inactive list immediately. Payment can be made at the next club meeting or you can send them in to Dave Totzke.

The newsletter is once again being sent out through email. Please update your email addresses to ensure proper delivery of your copy. Also, the newsletter will be placed on the website for viewing along with past newsletter copies.

If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, please contact the editor, Catherine Finnell at the address below. On a personal note, I would love to get some **pictures** from some of the hunts going on to add to the newsletter. If you have an announcement that needs to be in the newsletter, please send them in along with any other submissions to the following email address or you can give them to John Finnell at the next meeting. Please **hand print** announcements for John or email them to: newsletter@lonestartreasure.com

Amigos Hunt Picture Gallery



There are more pictures from the hunt as well as pictures from the garage sale on the Lone Star club's website.

CHRISTMAS PARTY GUIDELINES

By John Finnell

This year's Christmas party will again be at the Senter Park East Facility at 7:00 p.m., on Friday, December 1st. We will have barbeque catered by Spring Creek Barbeque, along with desserts brought by the members. Please remember that alcohol is not permitted in this Facility!

As part of the festivities we plan to have a gift exchange for both children and adults.

For the children, please bring a **new** non-gender specific give of at least \$10.00 value.

For the adults who wish to participate we will have a Chinese gift exchange.

Gift Guidelines:

Please bring a new unwrapped gift in a plain brown paper sack.

Your gift should be worth at least **\$25.00**.

Your gift does **not** need to be related to treasure hunting or metal detecting at all!

Please include the receipt in case it needs to be exchanged.

While a handmade article or unique specimen can certainly be valuable, some may fail to appreciate them. So please try to bring a gift that will appeal to everyone.

In short, everyone participating should feel they received a worthwhile gift. So don't bring anything crappy!

Lone Star Treasure Hunters Club
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